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EXAMINER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-5, 7-18, 20-30, and 32-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nishimoto (PUB NO.: 2002/0143648).

Re claim 1. Nishimoto discloses an online shopping settlement method comprising: detecting by a communication common carrier an order forwarded from a user terminal to a Web server providing online shopping services slip (i.e., order data, see fig. 16 element sl00, also see paras 0100-0101) and detecting an order confirmation slip that confirms receipt of said order slip forwarded from said Web server to said user terminal (i.e., order confirmation data, see fig. 17 element s200, also see paras 0104-0109), said communication common carrier collecting the price of said online shopping services as communication charges, for transactions for which said order slip and order confirmation slip are prepared, to collect charges that should be paid by said user terminal to said Web server (see fig.19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6, also see paras 0110), establishing an account-subscriber table holding a list of the relationship between the account name allocated to said user terminal by said Internet

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service provider and the subscriber line number of said user terminal (see fig.5); and accessing said account-subscriber table using the account name of said user terminal that connected to the Internet service provider to retrieve the subscriber line number (see paras 0012 and 0014) and then certifying said user terminal that connected to said Internet service provider through checking conditions of said subscriber line (see paras 0101).

Re claim 2. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement method that is a settlement method for an online shopping system comprising a user terminal, an Internet service provider connected to said user terminal via a network of a communication common carrier providing communication services to said user terminal and a Web server connected to said Internet service provider via the Internet providing online shopping services for said user terminal (see fig. 1), which settlement method includes: (a) detecting an order slip forwarded from said user terminal to said Web server and the corresponding order confirmation slip for confirming receipt of said order slip forwarded from said Web server to said user terminal (see fig. 16 and 17); (b) recording said order slip and order confirmation slip thus detected (see paras 0012); and (c) wherein said communication common carrier that provides a communication service to said user terminal and collects the price therefor as communication charges, acts as a substitute in respect of a transaction for which the requisite pair of order slip and order confirmation slip are prepared and which transaction is recorded, to collect charges that should be paid by said user terminal to said Web server (see fig. 19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6), (d) establishing an account-subscriber

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table holding a list of the relationship between the account name allocated to said user terminal by said Internet service provider and the subscriber line number of said user terminal (see fig 5); and (e) accessing said account-subscriber table using the account name of said user terminal that connected to the Internet service provider to retrieve the subscriber line number (see paras 0012 and 0014) and then certifying said user terminal that connected to said Internet service provider through checking conditions of said subscriber line (see paras 0101).

Re claim 3. Nishimoto further discloses online shopping settlement method according to claim 2, which uses a port number for online shopping, set for said order slip and order confirmation slip, for sending and receiving said order slip and order confirmation slip between said user terminal and said Web server respectively and wherein, at said step (a) of the settlement method further includes: a packet transferring from said Internet service provider to the Internet with an online shopping port number, is detected as being said order slip and a packet coming into said Internet service provider from the Internet with an online shopping port number is detected as being said order confirmation slip (i.e., header. Note the message header usually comprises the port number and the ip addresses of the sending host and the destination host, see fig. 7, 9, 11 and 12, also see fig.16 and fig.17).

Re claim 4. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement method according to claim 2, which relays said order slip and said order confirmation slip using a relay point established in advance for facilitating the sending and receiving of those slips between said user terminal and Web server and wherein, step (a) of the settlement

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method further includes: said order slip and order confirmation slip are detected through said relay point (i.e., header. Note the message header usually comprises the port number and the ip addresses of the sending host and the destination host, see fig. 7, 9, 11 and 12).

Re claim 5. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement method according to any of claims 3 or 4, which at said step (b) of the settlement method further includes: using a Web server IP table holding a list of IP addresses of Web servers for which charges are collected and does not record an order slip among those order slips detected at said step (a) for which the IP address of the Web server that is the destination is not registered in said Web server IP table and does not record an order confirmation slip amongst those order confirmation slips detected at said step (a) for which the IP address of the Web server that is the sender is not registered in said Web server IP table (see fig.5).

Re claim 7. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement method according to claim 2, wherein when said user terminal is connected to said Internet service provider, the relationship between the IP address allocated to said user terminal from said Internet service provider and the subscriber line number is stored in an IP-subscriber table, which method at said step (b), does not record an order slip from among those order slips detected at said step (a) for which the subscriber line number corresponding to the source IP address is not registered in said IP-subscriber table, and does not record an order confirmation slip from among those order confirmation slips detected at said step (a) for which the subscriber line number corresponding to the IP

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address of the user terminal that is the destination is not registered in said IP-subscriber table (see fig.5).

Re claims 8, 9-11. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement method wherein is also included a step (f) establishing an account-caller table holding a list of the relationship between the account name allocated to said user terminal by said Internet service provider and the calling telephone number of said user terminal (see fig.5), and certifies said user terminal connected to said Internet service provider through checking whether or not the combination of the account name of said user terminal connected to said Internet service provider and the calling telephone number is registered in said account- caller table (see paras 0101)

Re claims 12, 13. Nishimoto an online shopping settlement method that at said step (c) calculates the online shopping charges that should be collected from said user based on said order slip and order confirmation slip recorded at said step (b) and requests payment together with communication charges when invoicing said user terminal for communication charges (see fig.19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6)

Re claim 14. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement system for use by a communication common carrier that provides a communication service to a user terminal, comprising: order slip monitoring means for detecting an order slip forwarded from said user terminal to a Web server providing online shopping services and detecting a corresponding order. confirmation slip forwarded from said Web server to said user terminal for confirming receipt of said order slip (see fig. 16 and 17), charge collecting means for collecting charges of said online shopping services as

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communication charges wherein said charge collecting means collects said charges in respect of a transaction for which an order slip and a corresponding order confirmation slip are detected by said order slip monitoring means, to collect charges that should be paid by said user terminal to said Web server (see fig. 19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6), an account-subscriber table holding a list of the relationship between an account name allocated to said user terminal by an Internet service provider and a subscriber line number of said user terminal (see fig.5); and a certification means for accessing said account-subscriber table using the account name of said user terminal that is connected to the Internet service provider to retrieve the subscriber line number (see paras 0012 and 0014) and certifying said user terminal that is connected to said Internet service provider through checking conditions of said subscriber line (see paras 0101).

Re claim 15. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement system that is a settlement system of an online shopping system comprising a user terminal, an Internet service provider connected to said user terminal via a network of a communication common carrier providing communication services to said user terminal and a Web server connected to said Internet service provider via said Internet which server provides online shopping services to said user terminal (see fig. 1), which settlement system includes: an order slip monitoring means for detecting an order slip forwarded from said user terminal to said Web server and detecting the corresponding order confirmation slip forwarded from said Web server to said user terminal for confirming receipt of said order slip (see fig. 16 and 17); and an order slip recording means for

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recording said order slip and order confirmation slip detected by said order slip monitoring means (see paras 0012), and a settlement means for collecting charges in substitute that is a means for use by said communication common carrier which means acts as a substitute in respect of a transaction for which said requisite pair of order slip and order confirmation slip are prepared and recorded in said order slip recording means, to collect charges that should be paid by said user terminal to said Web server (see fig.19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6), an account-subscriber table holding a list of the relationship between an account name allocated to said user terminal by said Internet service provider and a subscriber line number of said user terminal (see fig.5), and a subscriber certification means that receives from said Internet service provider the account name of said user terminal that is connected to said Internet service provider, accesses said account-subscriber table and retrieves the appropriate subscriber line number and through checking the condition of that subscriber line (see paras 0012 and 0014), certifies said user terminal is connected to said Internet service provider (see paras 0101).

Re claims 16, 17-18, and 20. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement system wherein the configuration is such that a port number for online shopping especially set for said order slip and order confirmation slip is used, facilitating the sending and receiving of said order slip and order confirmation slip between said user terminal and said Web server (i.e., header. Note the message header usually comprises the port number and the ip addresses of the sending host and the destination host, see fig. 7, 9, 11 and 12), and wherein said order slip monitoring means provides a

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means for detecting those packets among packets going out from said Internet service provider to the Internet which have an online shopping port number as being an order slip and detecting those packets among packets coming into said Internet service provider from the Internet which have an online shopping port number as being an order confirmation slip (see fig. 11, 12, 16 and 17)

Re claims 21, 22-24. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement system according that provides an account-caller table holding a list of the relationship between the account name allocated to said user terminal by said Internet service provider and the calling telephone number of said user terminal (see fig.5), and that provides a subscriber certification means that receives from said Internet service provider, the account name of said user terminal that connected to said Internet service provider and the calling telephone number, and through checking whether or not the combination of the account name of said user terminal connected to said Internet service provider and the calling telephone number is registered in said account-caller table, certifies said user terminal that connected to said Internet service provider (see paras 0101, 0012, and 0014).

Re claims 25, 26. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement system wherein said settlement means provides a means for calculating the online shopping charges that should be collected from said user based on said order slip and order confirmation slip recorded by said order slip recording means and requests payment together with communication charges when invoicing said user terminal for communication charges (see fig.19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6)

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Re claim 27. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement program operating a computer forming a settlement system of an online shopping system that includes a user terminal, an Internet service provider connected to said user terminal via a network of a communication common carrier providing communication services to said user terminal and a Web server connected to said Internet service provider via the Internet which server provides online shopping services to said user terminal, such that said computer functions as: an order slip monitoring means for detecting an order slip forwarded from said user terminal to said Web server and detecting the corresponding order confirmation slip forwarded from said Web server to said user terminal for confirming receipt of said order slip (see fig. 16 and 17); an order slip recording means for recording said order slip and order confirmation slip detected by said order slip monitoring means (see paras 0012); and a settlement means for collecting charges in substitute that is a means for use by said communication common carrier which means acts as a substitute in respect of a transaction for which the requisite pair of orderslip and order confirmation slip are prepared and recorded in said order slip recording means, to collect charges that should be paid by said user terminal to said Web server (see fig. 19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6), an establishing means for providing an account-subscriber table holding a list of the relationship between an account name allocated to said user terminal by said Internet service provider and a subscriber line number of said user terminal (see fig.5), and a subscriber certification means that receives from said Internet service provider the account name of said user terminal that is connected to said Internet service provider, accesses said account-

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subscriber table and retrieves the appropriate subscriber line number and through checking the condition of that subscriber line (see paras 0012 and 0014), certifies said user terminal is connected to said Internet service provider (see paras 0101).

Re claims 28, 29-30. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement program facilitating a configuration wherein a port number for online shopping especially set for said order slip and order confirmation slip is used, facilitating the sending and receiving of said order slip and order confirmation slip between said user terminal and said Web server (i.e., header. Note the message header usually comprises the port number and the ip addresses of the sending host and the destination host, see fig. 7, 9, 11 and 12), and facilitating said order slip monitoring means providing a means for detecting those packets among packets going out from said Internet service provider to said Internet which have an online shopping port number as being an order slip and detecting those packets among packets coming into said Internet service provider from said Internet which have an online shopping port number as being an order confirmation slip (see fig. 11, 12, 16 and 17).

Re claims 32. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement program facilitating operations such that said subscriber certification means provides an IP-subscriber table that stores the relationship between the IP address allocated to said user terminal from said Internet service provider and said subscriber line number while said user terminal is connected to said Internet service provider, and facilitating operations such that said order slip recording means does not record an order slip from among those order slips detected by said order slip monitoring means for which the

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subscriber line number corresponding to the source IP address is not registered in said IP-subscriber table and does not record an order confirmation slip from among those order confirmation slips detected by said order slip monitoring means for which the subscriber line number corresponding to the IP address of said user terminal that is the destination is not registered in said IP-subscriber table (see fig5)

Re claims 33-36. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement program facilitating operations such that said subscriber certification means provides an IP-subscriber table that stores the relationship between the IP address allocated to said user terminal from said Internet service provider and said subscriber line number while said user terminal is connected to said Internet service provider (see fig.5), and facilitating operations such that said order slip recording means does not record an order slip from among those order slips detected by said order slip monitoring means for which the subscriber line number corresponding to the source IP address is not registered in said IP-subscriber table and does not record an order confirmation slip from among those order confirmation slips detected by said order slip monitoring means for which the subscriber line number corresponding to the IP address of said user terminal that is the destination is not registered in said IP-subscriber table (see paras 0071-0072).

Re claims 37 and 38. Nishimoto further discloses an online shopping settlement program facilitating operations such that said settlement means provides a means for calculating the online shopping charges that should be collected from said user based on said order slip and order confirmation slip recorded by said order slip recording

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means and requests payment together with communication charges when invoicing said user terminal for communication charges (see fig. 19 elements s406, s408, and s410, also see fig.6).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 09/02/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues in substance that the primary reference, Nishimoto, fails to disclose the language of claim 1 i.e., "accessing said account-subscriber table using the account name of said user terminal that is connected to the Internet service provider to retrieve the subscriber line number and then certifying said user terminal that is connected to said Internet service provider through checking conditions of said subscriber line." Contrary to the applicant's assertion, Nishimoto teaches "accessing said account-subscriber table using the account name of said user terminal that is connected to the Internet service provider to retrieve the subscriber line number." (i.e., When the user enters the article information into the user's terminal such as a mobile telephone, the entered article information and the ESN stored in the user's terminal are sent to the online shopping apparatus. The online shopping apparatus retrieves the user's name and destination, which are stored in advance and correspond to the ESN, and prepares the user information for sending them to the terminal of the online shopping dealer. The online shopping dealer performs processing for sending the article selected by the user to the destination based on the received article information and the user information, see paras 0014). The examiner asserts that the online shopping apparatus, taught by Nishimoto, accesses the internal database to retrieve

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the pre-stored user's name and destination which is akin to applicant's claimed limitation of "accessing said account-subscriber table using the account name of said user terminal that is connected to the Internet service provider to retrieve the subscriber line number." Nishimoto further discloses "certifying said user terminal that is connected to said Internet service provider through checking conditions of said subscriber line." (i.e., The user of mobile telephone 200 views a catalog or the like for online shopping, and determines the article number of the article, which the user intends to purchase. The user of mobile telephone 200 enters the determined article number and the quantity via console 252 of mobile telephone 200. The user of mobile telephone 200 requests via console 252 the sending of the order data to server 100. Mobile telephone 200 reads out the identification number stored in storing portion 240, and sends the order data (FIG. 7) including the identification number and the telephone number to server 100. When server 100 receives the order data (FIG. 7) from mobile telephone 200 (YES in S100), server 100 reads out the user ID from the user database (FIG. 5) based on the identification number included in the received order database. If the user in question is already registered (YES in S104), the name and address of the user, who sent the order data, are read out from the user database (FIG. 5) based on the identification number (S108). Server 100 prepares transfer data (FIG. 8) based on the read name and address of the user (S110), and sends the transfer data (FIG. 8) to computer 300 of the online shopping dealer (S112), see paras 0100-0101). The process, taught by Nishimoto supra, of verifying that the subscriber/user is registered with the service provider by checking the subscriber's name and address in the

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database is akin to applicant's claimed limitation of "certifying user terminal that is connected to said Internet service provider."

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OJO O. OYEBISI whose telephone number is (571)272-8298. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30A.M-5:30P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Dixon can be reached on (571)272-6803. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/OJO O OYEBISI/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3696